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ANTH 330.01: Peoples of Africa

Kimber Haddix McKay

University of Montana - Missoula, kimber.mckay@mso.umt.edu

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Peoples of Africa
Anthropology 330
Tues/Thurs 12:40–2:00
Fall 2002

Kimber Haddix McKay, Professor
222 Social Sciences
Office hours: Wednesday 10:00-12:00
mckay@selway.umd.edu

Course Description:

Anthropology 330 is a course about current issues in the four regions of contemporary sub-Saharan Africa—Southern, East, Central, and West Africa. This course is structured to explore current issues from a cultural perspective that draws upon local history, analyses of forms of social organization, and an examination of traditional and ‘modern’ political modes and structures. Students will learn about key issues from the perspectives of African guest speakers, non-African anthropologists and social scientists who specialize in Africa, journalists, and medical providers from the non-African developing world. African food, art, and music will be discussed as well as more serious subjects such as the Rwandan genocide, the plight of long term refugees and the HIV/AIDs outlook for the region.

Texts:

Mamdani, M. When Victims Become Killers, Princeton University Press, 2001.

O’Meara, P., and Martin, P. Africa, Indiana University Press, 1995.

Puertas Donoso, B. Across the Footsteps of Africa, Africa World Press, 1999.

Wrong, M. In the Footsteps of Mr. Kurtz, Harper Collins, 2001.

Requirements:

Regular reading assignments

2 minor exams (25%)

1 final exam (25%)

Write-up of group/individual research project (50%) or, responsibility for class presentation of research project (50%)

Schedule:

Week/Date	Topic/Reading	Due	Notes
1	Tuesday: Introduction and structure of course		
Sept. 3rd & 5th	Thursday: General themes—regions, environments, issues <i>Martin and O'Meara, Chpt 2</i>		
2	Tuesday: General themes—regions, environments, issues <i>Martin and O'Meara, Chpt 7</i>		
Sept. 10th and 12th	Thursday: West Africa <i>Martin and O'Meara, Chpt 9</i>		
3	Tuesday: Guest speaker—Sarah Halvorson: Chad		
Sept. 17th and 19th	Thursday: Ethnicity, colonialism and conflict <i>Martin and O'Meara, Chpt 8</i>		
4	Tuesday: library orientation	Exam	Meet in library on Tuesday
Sept. 24th and 26th	Thursday: First minor exam		First minor exam Thursday in class
5	Tuesday: Central Africa <i>Mamdani, Chpt 3</i>		
Oct. 1st and 3rd	Thursday: Central Africa <i>Mamdani, Chpt 7</i>		
6	Tuesday: Guest Speaker—Fatuma Emmad—Islam in Africa <i>Martin and O'Meara, Chpt 5</i>	Oral presentation	
Oct. 8th and 10th	Thursday: presentation		

Week/Date	Topic/Reading	Due	Notes
7	Tuesday: Southern Africa	Oral presentation	
Oct. 15 th and 17 th	Thursday: presentation		
8	Tuesday: Film 1 on San foragers	Oral presentation	Follow your handout whilst watching the films this week and next...
Oct. 22 nd and 24 th	Thursday: presentation		
9	Tuesday: Film 2 on San foragers	Oral presentation	
Oct. 29 th and 31 st	Thursday: presentation		
10	Tuesday: No class <i>Wrong, entire book</i>	Exam	No classes on Tuesday (Election Day)
Nov. 5 th and 7 th	Thursday: Exam		Second minor exam Thursday in class
11	Tuesday: Guest speaker – Jean-Louis Etoga on Congo <i>Wrong, entire book</i>		
Nov. 12 th and 14 th	Thursday: East Africa		
12	Tuesday: African demographic patterns <i>Martin and O'Meara Chpt 16</i>		
Nov. 19 th and 21 st	Thursday: HIV in Africa <i>Martin and O'Meara Chpt 20</i>		

Week/Date	Topic/Reading	Due	Notes
13 Nov. 26 th and 28 th	Tuesday: Guest speaker – Elias Okach on cultural factors underlying the HIV crisis in Africa Thursday: Thanksgiving		Thanksgiving week
14 Dec. 3 rd and 5 th	Tuesday: Political trends following decolonization <i>Puertas Donoso, entire book</i> Thursday: Political disruption and refugees <i>Puertas Donoso, entire book</i>	Papers	
15 Dec. 10 th and 12 th	Tuesday: Wrap up/summary of major issues Thursday: Review for final, evaluations		Last week of classes
16 Dec. 16 th	Wednesday: Final @ 10:10- 12:10	Final exam	Finals week
